metro
NEW YORK CITY NO. 1 FREE DAILY IN THE US
Thursday, May 31, 2018 metro.us | t: MetroNewYork | f: MetroNewYork

## TV'S NEXT BIG THING

Ryan Murphy's 'Pose' premieres this weekend. 19

Blame it on the Ambien? Here's Roseanne's tired excuse for racism. 10

Mets obliterated by injuries once again in 2018. 26-27

# ROBO-MAIDS

Scientists at MIT are working on a way to make computers carry out the mundane household chores you have no interest in doing. 4

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## 5 THINGS TO KNOW

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KRISTIN TOUSSAINT, REPORTER

Though the debut of "The Jetsons" was before my time, I still remember the futuristic cartoon and all the space age inventions, the envy of basically everyone who watched Elroy fly around with a jetpack and Jane print out food with the touch of a button. The most envious amenity of all, though, was of course Rosie the Robot, the Jetsons' animatronic housekeeper. Haven't we all dreamt of having a robot do our chores? Well, that reality is a bit closer, thanks so a new system out of MIT's Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory. Read more about how it works inside on page 4 and at **metro.us**.

## TALIBAN 'TALKING AND FIGHTING': COMMANDER

1 The top U.S. commander in Afghanistan played down a spate of recent Taliban attacks on Wednesday, saying violence levels were still lower than average as some insurgents talked peace — a situation he described as "talking and fighting." "You see mid-level, senior-level Taliban leaders engaging with Afghans," said Army General John Nicholson, adding that a lot of the diplomatic activity was taking place "off the stage." Nicholson's remarks came the same day that gunmen armed with assault rifles and grenade launchers attempted to penetrate the heavily fortified headquarters of the Afghan interior ministry, battling security forces for more than two hours in the latest attack on the capital Kabul. The attack was a reminder of the challenges facing U.S.-backed Afghan forces even after 16 years of war, including in the capital Kabul. Last month, two explosions in Kabul killed at least 26 people, including nine journalists. Nicholson said initial indications suggested Taliban and the Haqqani network were behind the attack, even though Islamic State claimed responsibility.

## MINNESOTA SUES OPIOID MAKER INSYS

2 Minnesota on Wednesday became the latest state to sue Insys Therapeutics Inc., accusing the drugmaker of illegally marketing a powerful fentanyl-based pain medicine, while a former employee pleaded guilty in New Jersey over bribing doctors to prescribe the drug. The lawsuit by Minnesota Attorney General Lori Swanson alleged that the company marketed the opioid drug intended to alleviate pain in cancer patients for unapproved uses. It added to the legal woes of Insys, whose former top executives have been caught up in a federal criminal investigation involving the drug, Subsys. In Middlesex County Superior Court in New Jersey on Wednesday, former Insys sales representative Michelle Breitenbach pleaded guilty to participating in a scheme to bribe doctors to prescribe Subsys. She faces up to five years in prison for a second-degree charge of conspiracy to commit commercial bribery, prosecutors said. Insys, in a statement, said it takes allegations of wrongdoing by ex-employees seriously and is "determined to take responsibility for the past and to learn from it." Breitenbach's attorney declined to comment.

## AUCTION HOUSE PREVIEWS COLLECTION FROM FAMOUS HANGMAN

3 An employee poses with a feathered helmet mask, "Mwaash aMbooy mu shall," from the Kuba people, DRC, 19th century (estimate $7800 to $10,000) during a press preview at Summers Place Auctions on Wednesday in Billingshurst, England. Summers Place Auctions are to sell items linked to Britain's most famous hangman, Albert Pierrepoint, in their anniversary sale on June 12. The executioner was notable for hanging more the 400 people, including around 200 war criminals in Germany following World War II. The auction house will also sell a large collection of tribal art from across Africa and the American continents on Sept. 25 and 26.

GETTY IMAGES

## NORTH KOREA OFFICIAL IN US FOR TALKS ON SUMMIT

4 A senior North Korean official made a rare visit to the United States on Wednesday for talks about a possible summit between the leaders of the two countries but the sides appeared far apart on the central issue of Pyongyang's nuclear weapons. Kim Yong Chol, a close aide of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and vice chairman of the ruling Workers' Party's Central Committee, arrived at New York's John F. Kennedy airport on a flight from Beijing. He was later seen entering a hotel in midtown Manhattan. Kim Yong Chol is due to meet with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on Wednesday and Thursday to discuss whether to go ahead with an unprecedented meeting between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim. The summit, originally planned for June 12 in Singapore, has been cast in doubt as the two countries — which have technically been at war since the 1950s — test each other's diplomatic mettle. Trump last week called off the summit after North Korea expressed anger at comments by senior U.S. officials. But Trump later said he was reconsidering his position.

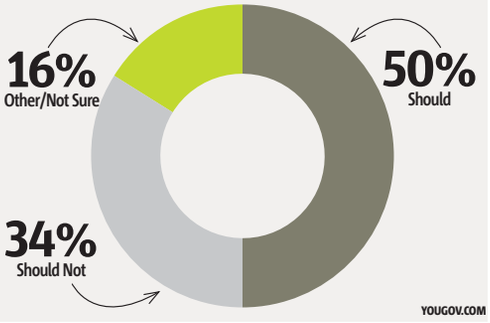
## 'DEAD' UKRAINIAN JOURNO TURNS UP ALIVE

5 A dissident Russian journalist reported murdered in Kiev on Tuesday dramatically reappeared alive on Wednesday during a televised briefing by Ukrainian state security about the killing, which they then said they had faked. Authorities said Arkady Babchenko was shot dead at his flat and found by his wife in a pool of blood. But he took to the podium before stunned reporters and said he had been part of a Ukrainian operation to thwart a Russian attempt on his life and expose those behind it. "I would like to apologize for what you have all had to go through," said Babchenko, who looked on the verge of tears. "I'm sorry but there was no other way of doing it. Separately, I want to apologize to my wife for the hell that she has been through." His reappearance elicited gasps, then cheers and applause from journalists at the briefing. Babchenko, 41, is a critic of President Vladimir Putin and Russian policy in Ukraine and Syria. His reported murder sparked a war of words between Ukraine and Russia. The two countries have been at odds since a popular revolt in Ukraine in 2014 toppled a Russian-backed government in favor of a pro-Western one.

STATS

## 'ROSEANNE' REBOOT

**The reboot of "Roseanne" was canceled Tuesday after its star Roseanne Barr tweeted a racist slur. Do you think the show should or should not have been canceled?**

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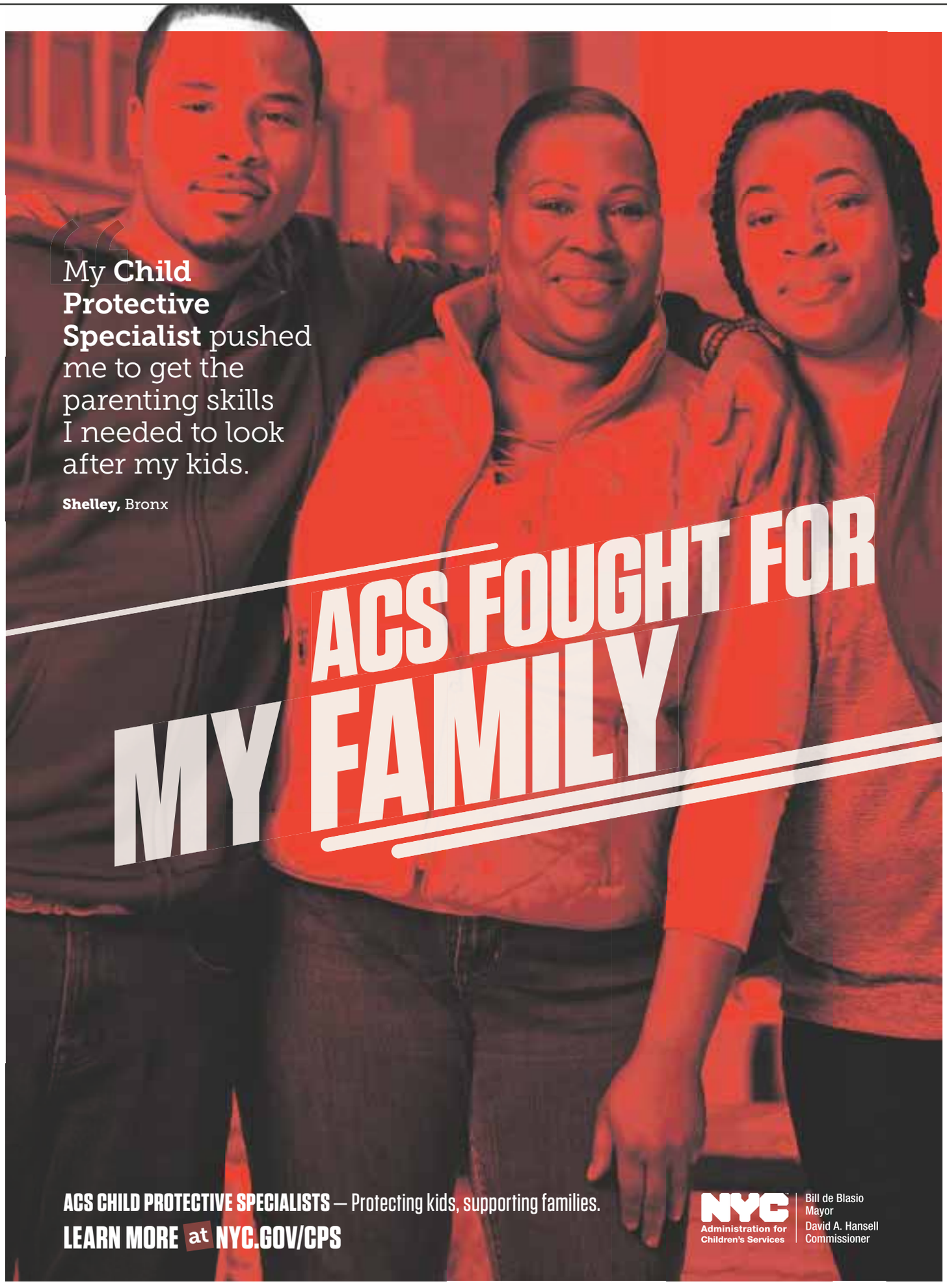
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An agent sets a table in this image. MIT CSAIL

# Robot maids could become a reality with new MIT system

A new system out of the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory could teach machines to do chores.

KRISTIN TOUSSAINT
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The future has long promised tech advances that take over mundane tasks like household chores, but though there's no all-in-one robot housekeeper a la Rosie from The Jetsons on the market just yet, a new system out of MIT's Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory could bring the idea of a robot maid closer to reality.

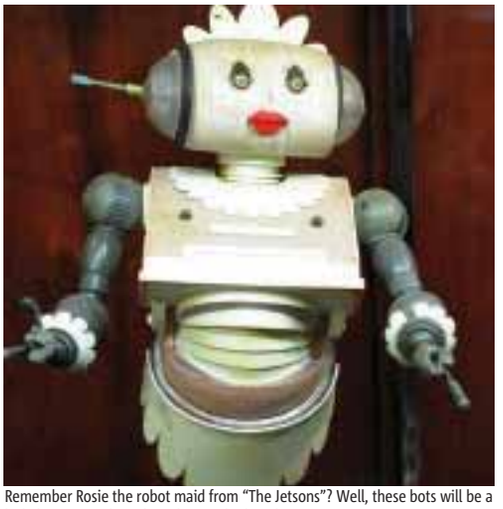
Right now, though, the concept lives within a simulated world inspired by The Sims.

In a paper published Wednesday, a group of computer scientists spearheaded by MIT CSAIL and the University of Toronto detail their "VirtualHome" system, which can simulate household activities like making coffee or setting the table and then instruct "artificial agents" — basically virtual characters, like Sims — to carry out those tasks.

Co-lead author Xavier Puig Fernandez is seen working with the Virtual Home interface. JASON DORFMAN, MIT CSAIL

The tricky part in making a robot maid a reality, according to MIT CSAIL, has to do with how robots carry out instructions. When you tell a person to turn on the TV, they know that they need to grab the remote. Robots, though, need more explicit commands, like to pick up the remote in the first place.

In the VirtualHome system, computer scientists were able to test this, breaking down household chores into a clear set of tasks that a computer can understand.



Remember Rosie the robot maid from "The Jetsons"? Well, these bots will be a little less matronly and much more high-tech. GETTY IMAGES

A Sim turn on a TV in this image MIT CSAIL

Xavier Puig Fernandez is a graduate student at MIT CSAIL. JASON DORFMAN, MIT CSAIL

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# Dog flu discovered in Brooklyn

H3N2, also known as canine influenza, causes lethargy, loss of appetite, a cough, a fever and more.

NIKKI M. MASCALI
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While peak flu season for humans is thankfully over after a particularly infectious winter, there is no end for dog flu, which has seen nearly 500 cases of the highly transmissible, airborne virus across the country this year.

And New York has not been spared. There have been at least three dozen reported cases of dog flu in Brooklyn, The New York Times reported Wednesday. Some of those cases required hospitalization.

"We get concerned that we'll see outbreaks, particularly as people travel with their pets," Dr. Yasmine Mortsakis, founder of New York Veterinary Practice, told Metro. "Your dog travels with you on an airplane, goes wherever you go," she said, adding that it was just a matter of time before the virus made its way to New York.

As the weather warms, New York dog owners will be heading to their favorite dog park or other city green spaces, where they will likely interact with other dogs more frequently. Dogs who go to doggie daycare are also more susceptible to the virus.

To make sure your pup is safe in the event of dog flu stretching across the nation, Mortsakis suggests getting your dog vaccinated against both strains that have been detected or making sure you're up to date on their shots.

"It's highly contagious and respiratory-based, and dogs don't have a natural immunity to it because it's a fairly new virus," she added. "Most dogs that come in contact with it are going to get sick. If left untreated or in severe cases, it can result in pneumonia or death, so it is something to be concerned about."

Unlike human flu, dog flu doesn't have a season, so as the weather gets nicer and your dog spends more time outside, here are some things to know about the highly contagious virus. GETTY IMAGES

**"It's highly contagious and respiratory-based, and dogs don't have a natural immunity to it because it's a fairly new virus."**

Dr. Yasmine Mortsakis

Symptoms include high fever, loss of appetite, runny noses, sneezing and coughing. Dogs who have the flu can spread it via communal water bowls or toys at dog parks or even their human, who can spread it to other dogs they come in contact with, though it is not transmissible to humans.

"There are so many ways to catch it in the city because we have such a dense population of dogs and humans — that's why it's so important to be vaccinated, because the more dogs who are, the safer the environment is for our dog population," Mortsakis said.

While you certainly can't put your pooch in a plastic bubble before heading outside, some things you can do to keep your dog healthy are avoiding dogs that show the symptoms mentioned above, wiping your dog's paws when you come home and bringing your own water bowl to the dog park.

*Visit dogflu.com for more info.*

# Painful Varicose Veins and Swollen Legs?

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Six Michelin-starred city chefs will be serving up some of their best recipes on June 25. FACEBOOK

# With Breaking Ground's Serving Up Home, Michelin-starred chefs help city's homeless

The June 25 event at the nonprofit's Prince George residence features signature dishes from six chefs and directly supports its street outreach and housing programs.

**$250**
Tickets for Serving Up Home are currently on sale and start at $250.

**$80,000**
Last year's event brought in more than $80,000.

NIKKI M. MASCALI
nikki.mascali@metro.us

You might not think that homelessness and hunger in New York City has any connection to the iconic restaurant-industry influencer Michelin Guide, but for supportive housing developer Breaking Ground, it most certainly does.

For the second year in a row, Breaking Ground will host Serving Up Home, a tasting event at its Prince George residence on East 27th Street, with signature dishes from six Michelin-starred city chefs.

This year's event takes place June 25 and features Cosme Aguila of Casa Enrique, Emma Bengtsson of Aquavit, Aaron Bludorn of Café Boulud, Christopher Engle of Aureole New York, Carlo Mirarchi of Blanca and Melissa Rodriguez of Del Posto as well as bites from Somtum Der, Casellula, Red Rooster Harlem and D'Artagnan.

"I wanted to do something light and summery and, of course, have a little bit of a flair to it, so I'm doing a scallop with caviar, rosé and pine, which are some of my favorite things to eat," said Bengtsson, who earned Aquavit's second Michelin Star last year, making her the first-ever female Swedish chef and just the second female chef in the U.S. to run a two-star kitchen.

Breaking Ground's mission is near and dear to Bengtsson as she already works with similar organizations, so "to be able to provide people with the right to have a decent quality of life and have somewhere to live and food for the day, I will do anything I can," she said.

Tickets for Serving Up Home are currently on sale and start at $250. Last year's event brought in more than $80,000.

"Those dollars went directly to support our street outreach and transitional housing programs," said Brenda Rosen, Breaking Ground's president and CEO. "That's the work we do on the streets with homeless people and transitional housing that we can bring people into off the streets right away."

Breaking Ground manages 22 permanent and transitional housing buildings across the city, and Rosen said it costs about $124 per night for transitional housing. "That $80,000 translated to 650 nights of transitional housing in 2017, so it's a big deal," she added.

The Prince George was one of the city's grandest hotels in the early 1900s, but had fallen into despair when Breaking Ground acquired it in 1996.

Today, it offers 415 units of supportive and affordable housing, and hosting Serving Up Home in its ballroom is "incredibly meaningful," Rosen said. "To have an event that is going to raise funds that go directly to help folks get off the street who could potentially move into the Prince George, remain stable and get back on their feet is just thrilling for us."

*For more info visit breakingground.org/servinguphome.*

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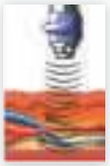

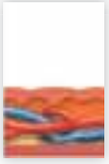

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# Treatment offers new hope for erectile dysfunction

If you're at war with erectile dysfunction (ED), you're not alone. In fact, one in every four new patients is under the age of 40, according to the *Journal of Sexual Medicine*. While it may be comforting to know that it's more common than you think, you're probably more concerned with getting it under control. And we don't blame you—ED takes a serious toll on relationships, intimacy and overall well-being.

Enter ErectionWave, an innovative new approach that flips traditional ED treatment on its head. More often than not, the go-to answer is a lifetime Viagra prescription. The big downside here is that this really only treats the symptom, not the underlying problem. It also leaves you completely dependent on medication to enjoy a satisfying sex life.

Founded by a renowned Board Certified Urologist Dr. David Shusterman, ErectionWave is different in that it improves sex without medication. As the name implies, it directs high-frequency waves toward blood vessels that are normally narrow or blocked. This, in turn, optimizes blood flow, allowing for naturally strong erections. This holistic treatment also increases the size of penile veins *and* increases nerve function.

Translation: it's a noninvasive treatment option that actually gets to the root of erectile dysfunction.

Dr. Shusterman and his team of experienced sex function specialists are dedicated to eliminating the need for penile pumps, injections, and drugs like Viagra. They also offer highly effective alternative treatments that go beyond ErectionWave therapy. One pathway is hormone replacement—an umbrella term that covers a wide array of robust therapy options that are completely tailored to each individual patient. Addressing any hormonal causes of ED is critical to improving sexual desire and, ultimately, getting on the other side of erectile dysfunction.

Another successful option for men with ED is something known as the Priapus shot, aptly named after the Greek god of virility. The P-shot, as it's called, is a non-surgical, completely pain-free penis injection that serves double duty: improving sexual performance and increasing penis size by up to 3.5 centimeters; a game changer for those who are at the end of their rope with erectile dysfunction. It also leverages your own regenerative cells, making it completely safe and totally natural.

Ready to tackle your ED once and for all? Book an appointment with Dr. Shusterman at NY Urology, located at 800 Second Avenue on the corner of 42nd Street. Call **212-661-0060** to take the first step toward a healthy, satisfying sex life.

Roseanne Barr GETTY IMAGES

# Roseanne Barr blames sleep aid Ambien for racist tweet

The makers of the drug shot back, saying racism is not a side effect of the medication.

Comedian Roseanne Barr said she was tired of "being attacked and belittled," and blamed sleep aid Ambien for her tweet that compared a black former Obama administration official to an ape, a racist remark that sparked a wave of outrage.

Barr said in a series of tweets Tuesday and early Wednesday that what she did was "unforgivable" when she posted on Twitter that if the Islamist political movement "muslim brotherhood & planet of the apes had a baby = vj," referring to Valerie Jarrett, a former aide to President Barack Obama.

"It was 2 in the morning and I was Ambien tweeting-it was memorial day too-i went 2 far & do not want it defended-it was egregious Indefensible," she wrote. "I made a mistake I wish I hadn't but...don't defend it please."

**"It was 2 in the morning and I was Ambien tweeting-it was memorial day too-i went 2 far & do not want it defended-it was egregious Indefensible."**

Roseanne Barr

Ambien's maker, Sanofi, responded Wednesday.

"People of all races, religions and nationalities work at Sanofi every day to improve the lives of people around the world," its U.S. arm said on Twitter. "While all pharmaceutical treatments have side effects, racism is not a known side effect of any Sanofi medication."

In other tweets, Barr said she was tired of "being attacked and belittled more than other comedians who have said worse" and asked for people not to boycott ABC, saying that the network has the right to "do what they wish."

ABC network Tuesday canceled her popular television comedy "Roseanne" after her tweet.

Barr, 65, then apologized "for making a bad joke" about Jarrett, who is black and was born in Iran to American parents.

"Don't feel sorry for me, guys!!" Barr tweeted late Tuesday. "I just want to apologize to the hundreds of people, and wonderful writers [all liberal] and talented actors who lost their jobs on my show due to my stupid tweet."

Jarrett said Tuesday that Disney Chief Executive Bob Iger called her before ABC revealed the show's cancellation.

President Donald Trump then waded into the uproar over Barr's racist tweet, complaining that an ABC TV executive who apologized for the comments had turned a deaf ear to criticism of him broadcast by the network.

"Gee, he never called President Donald J. Trump to apologize for the HORRIBLE statements made and said about me on ABC. Maybe I just didn't get the call?" Trump said on Twitter. Trump has been a persistent critic of the news media throughout his campaign and presidency. REUTERS

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# Conservatives want to boycott Bill Maher now that 'Roseanne' was canceled

Bill Maher GETTY IMAGES

After Roseanne Barr posted a racially charged tweet saying former Obama adviser Valerie Jarrett was a cross between the "Muslim brotherhood" and an ape, ABC dropped the "Roseanne" reboot. Barr was also dropped by her talent agency, ICM Partners. But conservatives are now calling for a Bill Maher boycott for similar offensive remarks he made in the past about President Trump.

Conservatives are arguing that the comedian and political commentator didn't reap any consequences from a January 2013 appearance on NBC's "The Tonight Show" in which Maher insinuated that Trump was an orangutan. After noting that the only thing in nature resembling Trump's hair was that of an orangutan, Maher offered a $5 million donation to the charity of the president's choice if Trump produced a birth certificate to prove he was not part ape.

**"They get classified as 'jokes' by the media and he is of course allowed to keep his show and not have his life ruined. The difference? Bill Maher is a liberal, Roseanne is a free-thinking Trump supporter."**

Charlie Kirk

According to Reuters, a letter to Maher from Trump's lawyer read, "Attached hereto is a copy of Mr. Trump's birth certificate, demonstrating that he is the son of Fred Trump, not an orangutan." Trump then filed a lawsuit against him, but withdrew eight weeks later.

Maher talked about this lawsuit on his HBO show, "Real Time with Bill Maher." He defended his comments, saying that they were a "parody" and a "joke," and that he only made the donation offer because Trump had done this in the past in regards to Obama releasing documentation. Not only has Trump challenged Obama's citizenship, but he's also offered to give $5 million to charity if the former president released his college records.

In terms of the Maher boycott, some want him fired, period. And others are also arguing that the cancellation of Barr's show has to do with the fact that she's a Trump supporter.

Charlie Kirk, executive director and founder of the ring-wing nonprofit Turning Point USA, tweeted, "Wait, Bill Maher makes comparisons to Trump being a gorilla all the time? They get classified as 'jokes' by the media and he is of course allowed to keep his show and not have his life ruined. The difference? Bill Maher is a liberal, Roseanne is a free-thinking Trump supporter."

Back in 2002, Maher's ABC show, "Politically Incorrect," was dropped by the network after he made controversial comments about 9/11. According to Bustle, he said that labeling terrorists as cowards was hypocritical because "we have been the cowards, lobbing cruise missiles from 2,000 miles away."

One Twitter user pointed this out, arguing that ABC treated Barr and Maher "both the same."

SAM BRODSKY

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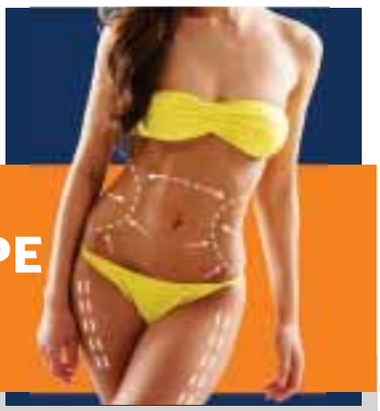

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Right now Jeff Sessions may have one of the worst jobs in America. GETTY IMAGES

# THE FOREMAN FORECAST: TAKE THIS JOB AND ...

ANALYSIS

TOM FOREMAN

CNN's Tom Foreman is the author of the book "My Year of Running Dangerously."

I've had some bad jobs. I've worked on farms where the hours were long, the days hot, and the chores dirty. I've stocked shelves and sold toys during the holidays, getting by on three hours of sleep a night to pay for college. I've pulled the overnight shift at a convenience store, waiting from sundown to sunrise for a murderous robber to drift my way.

But I've never had a job as bad as Jeff Sessions'.

Now, being attorney general of the United States is not inherently a horrible gig. In normal times, I imagine it is pretty sweet. But in these times under this president, I'd rather be beaten with a knotted rope.

Almost from the moment Sessions took the position, his boss — Donald Trump — has berated, belittled, and humiliated him. Speculation that Sessions is about to be fired has never gone below a low boil, and at times it bubbles furiously. The latest insult? When a Republican congressman noted on a morning news show that Trump could have chosen someone else for attorney general, the president jumped to tweet "I wish I did."

So what has Sessions done to deserve the public pillory? He recused himself from the Russia investigation because his involvement with the Trump campaign could have posed a conflict of interest. That's a problem because Trump wanted him in the middle of it; a loyalist who could and would (if the president had his way) stop the "witch hunt." And failing to do so appears to be unforgiveable in the eyes of this president who so often equates his personal fate with that of the nation. "He made what I consider to be a very terrible mistake for the country," he complained when Sessions stepped aside. And he's never stopped carping about it.

I can't explain why Sessions stays put. Nor can I fathom why Trump doesn't dump him. But I have a suspicion: Unable to get directly at the investigators and fearful of the consequences if he tries, Trump wants a whipping boy — and even though that is not the job Sessions accepted, it's the one he's got.

Mayor Bill de Blasio stands at the intersection where two small children were fatally struck by a driver in Park Slope.
MICHAEL APPLETON/MAYORAL PHOTOGRAPHY OFFICE

# City officials urge Albany to extend school zone speed camera program

Mayor Bill de Blasio on Wednesday urged the state legislature to expand the city's school zone speed-camera program slated to expire in Albany next month — and announced a redesign of Ninth Street in Park Slope, where two young children were killed after a driver accelerated through a red light in March.

"We are doing our part with a redesign of Ninth Street to reduce speeding and make it safer," de Blasio said at a press conference held at the crash site. "Now we need Albany to do its part. We need school zone speed camera legislation extended and expanded immediately to prevent future tragedies on our streets. Speed cameras save lives."

**"We need school zone speed camera legislation extended and expanded immediately to prevent future tragedies on our streets. Speed cameras save lives."**

Mayor Bill de Blasio

The redesign of Ninth Street, which would run from Prospect Park West to Third Avenue, includes expanded pedestrian and cyclist access, create nearly 1 mile of protected bike lanes and changing loading regulations to decrease double parking.

The Department of Transportation will release its proposal tonight at a community workshop, and it will then be presented to Community Board 6 next month. Installation will take place this summer after the community weighs in.

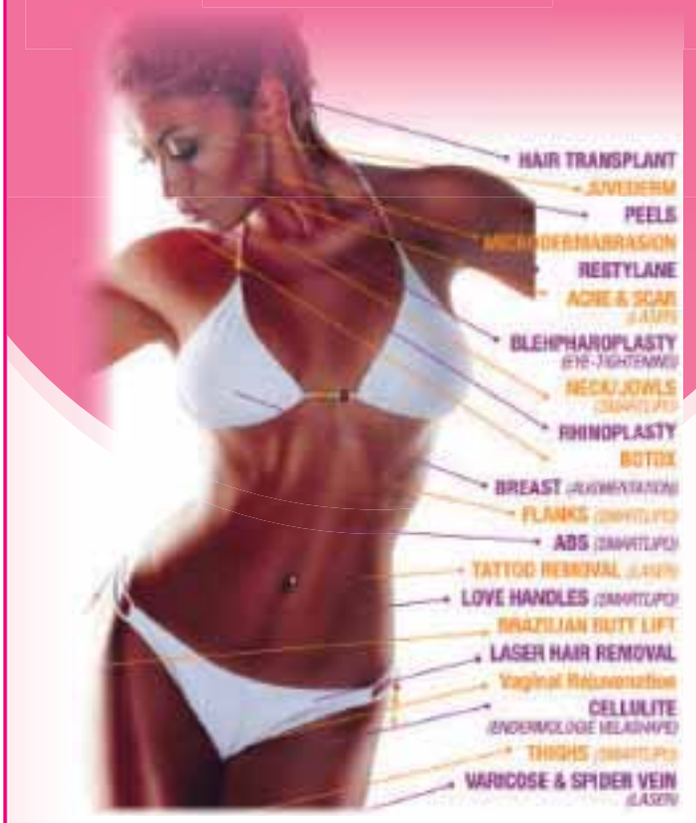
"At the same time, we also look forward to making our closing argument in Albany next month for school-zone speed cameras, which have been such a critical component in our Vision Zero efforts that have helped New York City buck national trends — with fatality declines for four straight years," DOT Commissioner Polly Trottenberg said.

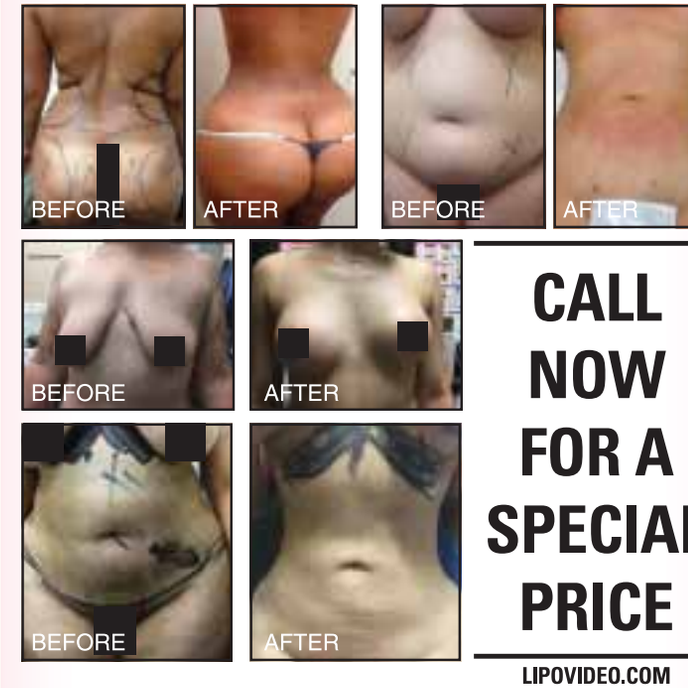
NIKKI M. MASCALI

### CITY OFFICIALS ARE ASKING ALBANY TO:

- Approve the installation of speed cameras at 150 additional school zones, which would more than double the current amount.
- Revise the definition of a school zone in order for the DOT to address speeding on nearby streets instead of just the street or streets where a school is located.
- Expand the speed camera program until 2022.

THE RESULTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES!

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Harvey Weinstein could face up to 25 years in prison if found guilty. GETTY IMAGES

# Weinstein indicted on rape charges

The disgraced film producer is expected to plead not guilty, according to his attorney.

Movie producer Harvey Weinstein has been indicted on charges of rape and a criminal sexual act, Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance said in a statement on Wednesday.

Weinstein's indictment by a grand jury follows his arrest and court appearance last Friday on charges related to two among the scores of women who have accused him of sexual misconduct, all of which he has denied.

Weinstein's lawyer, Benjamin Brafman, said at the time the disgraced producer intends to plead not guilty.

Earlier on Wednesday, Weinstein declined to testify before the grand jury after a judge denied a request by Brafman to postpone the appearance. Brafman had argued Weinstein was denied access to information about the case and lacked preparation time.

The grand jury indictment follows a months-long investigation with the New York Police Department. Police have not identified the two women, but said the crimes took place in 2004 and 2013.

Vance's statement said Weinstein was charged by the grand jury with rape in the first and third degrees and a criminal sexual act in the first degree. If convicted on the most serious charges, Weinstein could face between five and 25 years in prison.

Weinstein, the 66-year-old co-founder of the Miramax film studio and the Weinstein Co., has been accused of sexual misconduct by more than 70 women, with some of the allegations dating back decades.

He has denied ever having nonconsensual sex.

The accusations, first reported last year by The New York Times and the New Yorker, gave rise to the #MeToo movement, in which hundreds of women have publicly accused powerful men in business, government and entertainment of sexual misconduct. REUTERS

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# People are now paying $300 to cuddle cows. Here's why.

A 90-minute cow-cuddling session for two will cost you $300. GETTY IMAGES

Believe it or not, people are now shelling out $300 for two people to spend 90 minutes cuddling, brushing and playing with cows. The wellness trend is simply called cow cuddling, and it's the most recent addition to animal-centric holistic health offers, like goat yoga.

If you're still reeling from sticker shock it might be because you're from the Midwest and used to petting cows on nearby farms as they hang their heads over the fence — free. But though the dough you'll need to drop might seem high, the health treatment is, in fact, rooted in at least some science. Here's why people are dropping serious cash on cow cuddling.

Cow cuddling is just what it sounds like, though you'll do more than just cuddle. A cow-cuddling experience also includes petting and playing with the cows, and no, they won't put you to work milking them while you're there. Sessions tend to be monitored and facilitated by a licensed counselor and an equine specialist.

And there are actually health benefits to cow cuddling. Experts claim the practice can be a good alternative for people who just can't get into meditation. One of the many benefits to meditation is the ability to slow down your heart rate, which can work wonders for alleviating or even banishing anxiety. Cow cuddling can do the same thing, according to Mountain Horse Farm, a wellness retreat in upstate New York that offers this experience.

Think of it as therapy that doesn't require you to say a word. "They will pick up on what's going on inside and sense if you are happy, sad, feel lost, anxious or are excited and they will respond to that without judgement, ego or agenda," the Mountain Horse Farm website explains. They're sensitive, intuitive creatures, it explains, which makes them perfect for sensing your emotions and responding to your subtle body language.

LINNEA ZIELINSKI

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# "Demand Soars For Innovative Arthritis Treatment FDA

## *NYC Pain MD* doctors offer powerful, cutting-edge arthritis treatment… prepares for overw

**By Matt Edgar**
*America's Health Writer*

Arthritis sufferers can't get it fast enough and doctors offering it can't keep up with the demand. "Results are better than even I anticipated" noted one of the treating docs at the ***NY Pain MD*** Center for Non-Surgical Medical Relief Of Spine And Joint Pain with two locations right here in NYC.

He was referring to their innovative arthritis treatment program featuring Advanced Image-guided "Visco-Supplementation" at the conveniently located clinics..

"The response continues to be overwhelming. Once patients found out there was an FDA cleared, doctor-administered arthritis treatment that actually works – without the side effects of oral pain pills or risks of replacement surgery - and has enough scientific research that it is covered by many insurances and even Part B medicare – the offices continue to be deluged with arthritis pain sufferers wanting to find if they, too, can be helped. And newer research indicates it can help hips, ankles and shoulders as well".

### What Is This Treatment And How Does It Work?

If you are suffering with knee (or other joint) arthritis and pain, you are not alone. Degenerative joint disease or "arthritis" affects 21 mil-lion Americans and typically involves the weight bearing joints – like your knees. According to the American College of Rheumatology, nearly 70% of people over the age of 70 have x-ray evidence of the disease (and the ranks of much younger victims of this progressive disorder continue to grow significantly).

**The worst thing is:** Arthritis can be devastating. The pain can keep you up at night and make getting out of bed and moving around a daunting task. The pain and stiffness can suck all the happiness and joy right out of your life

And up until now, treatment options have not been that good… or that appealing to most patients. The basic protocol has been a steady diet of toxic pain pills until your joints completely wear out and then it's time to surgically replace the knee joint.

**Read This If You Have Already Had Treatment Without Good Results**

Even if you've failed Synvisc, Supartz, or other arthritis programs or had "blind" procedures, good results may still be possible when using ***NY Pain MD*** methods utilizing Precision Arthritis Targeting Technology (P.A.T.T). To achieve the best results.

### But Now Things Have Changed

Osteoarthritis is a joint disease that mostly affects the cartilage. Cartilages the tissue that covers the ends on bones in a joint. When healthy, cartilage allows bones to glide smoothly over one another and acts as a shock absorber. Your" normal" knee also contains a small amount of fluid called synovial fluid. This synovial fluid is a thick, gel-like solution that cushions and lubricates the joint–much like oil lubricates the engine of your car.

In osteoarthritis, the synovial fluid loses it's lubricating properties and "dries up" allowing the cartilage to break down and wear away. This is *like running your car with little or no oil.* Now as you attempt to use your knee(s), there is not enough lubrication causing the bones to grind together resulting in pain, swelling, stiffness and the joint continues to wear out. This is a vicious cycle and can lead to bone-on-bone rubbing and excruciating pain. Pain pills do NOT lubricate the joint or fix the problem. They simply mask the pain so you do not feel the pain as your joints continue to deteriorate. The eventual repercussions of this are obvious.

### "Visco" Is Very Different

And here is why: It contains hyaluronate, one of the two natural lubricating agents found in your own synovial fluid. Viscosupplementation is precisely introduced directly in to your knee joint in a series of 3-5 treatments (depending on severity) over a 4 to 6 week period. This instantly cushions the joint, reduces friction and allows greater motion with less pain or no pain at all in some cases.

This treatment not only lubricates the joint, but it acts as a shock absorber helping reduce grinding, inflammation and pain. **Here's something very important to consider:** Even though these lubricating medicines are non-toxic natural substances and are NOT considered a drug, it is NOT something you can get at your local health food store. It is scientifically researched and produced by pharmaceutical companies, FDA cleared and can ONLY be administered by a qualified Doctor.

### What's Results Can You Expect?

According to one developers and manufacturers of these special gel medicines ... "A course of treatment –will relieve pain in a majority of patients for 6 months without the safety concerns of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) therapy. In many patients, the effect is likely to last even longer than 6 months. "And the best part is: Since these gel lubricants are natural substances; they can be used over and re over when necessary without risk. If it works for you, you may be able to look forward to years with less pain.

### Who Should Consider Viscosupplementation... Where Can You Get It And... When Should You Start?

You should certainly consider The ***NY Pain MD*** method if you have been diagnosed with knee arthritis or told you need a knee replacement. If you have not been diagnosed with arthritis but have either knee pain, stiffness, swelling, difficulty walking or climbing stairs or loss of motion in the knee – you should have an examination to determine what the cause of your problem is. If you have any of those issues mentioned, there is a very good chance you already have-or are starting to get arthritis.

### Very Important – Do Not Wait - Here's Why …

Studies indicate that if the arthritis is caught soon enough, the cushioning effect of the treatments c may be able to help the knee heal and possibly, slow the arthritis thus help avoid joint replacement surgery. In other words, the sooner you start – the better. Does the procedure hurt? A local anesthetic is given to numb the area and the procedure is virtually painless. Most patients say it feels like nothing more than a slight "pinching" sensation… that's it.

### Why Treatments At *NYC Pain MD* Are So Extremely Precise

Our doctors are particularly well-trained in a state-of-the-art digital fluoroscopic imaging - also known at Precision Arthritis Targeting - which allows them to see directly inside the joint during the procedure and get the natural cushioning medicine exactly where it needs to go. This makes sure treatments have the best possibility for maximum success. This is crucial because studies indicate that when doing these types of procedures - without digital imaging - it can miss the joint space up to 30% of the time rendering the treatment outcomes less effective.

### How To Check Out This Breakthrough Treatment And See It Is Right For You For FREE

All the doctors at ***NY Pain MD*** are extremely excited about the response and results with this wonderful treatment and would like to share it with as many arthritis sufferers as possible.

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**But There Is A Problem…**

Even though this advanced treatment can help many patients, it is not a wonder cure or a magic wand. It does not help everyone. For that reason, every potential patient should have a complete examination. You will only be accepted if we feel you are most likely to get the pain relief and outcome you are looking for.

**Here's How To Get A Free Screening at NYC Pain MD**

Simply call 877-568-8350 and when Aura, Travis or Priscilla answers the phone tell them you want your No-Obligation "Knee Pain Screening". Discover if The ***NYC Pain MD*** Program can ease your knee arthritis pain like it has already done for so many others.

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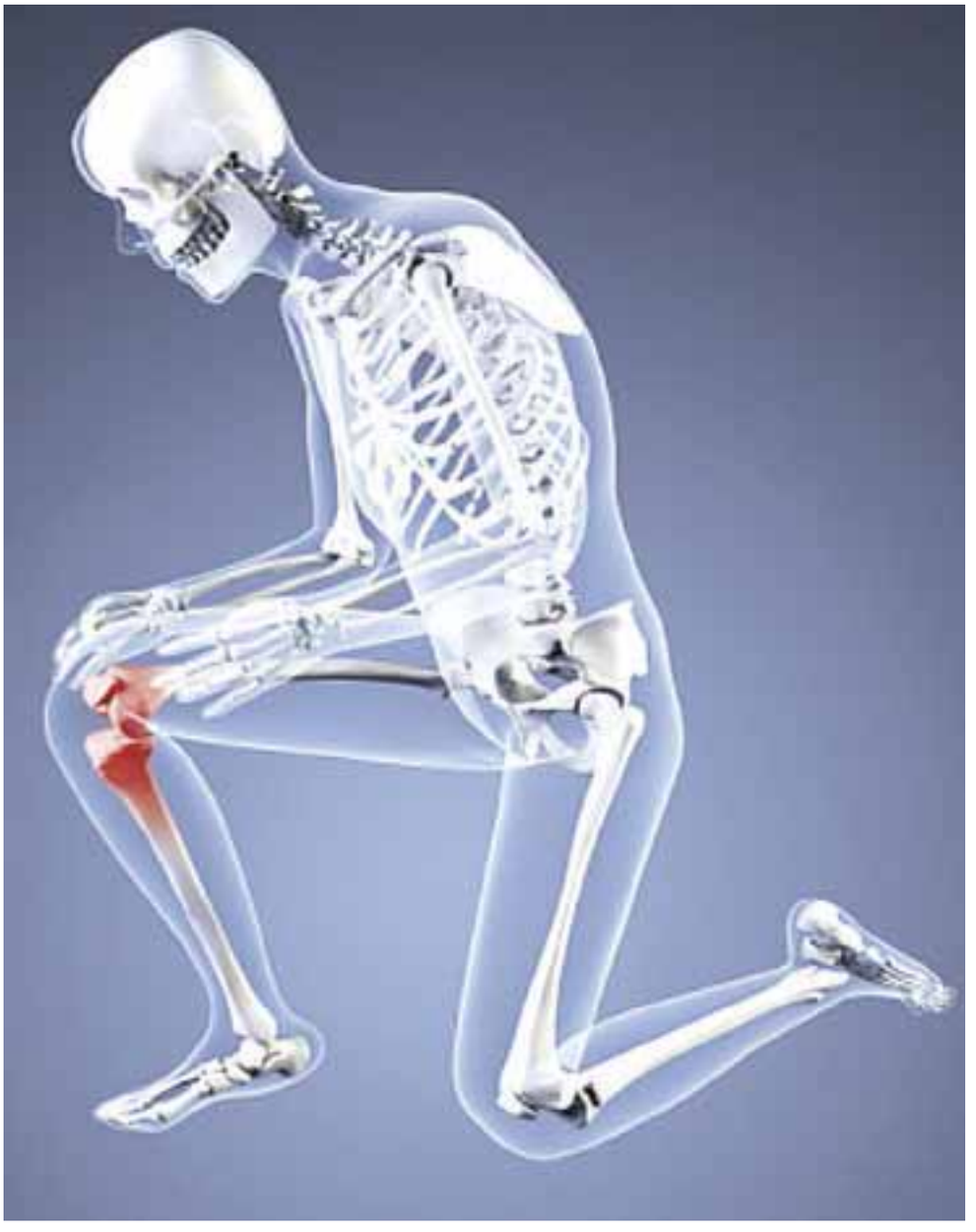
That's why ***NY Pain MD*** would like to invite you to come in for a knee arthritis screening at no cost to see if you actually are a candidate for comprehensive evaluation and possible treatment. All you have to do is call 877-568-8350 right now and when the scheduling coordinator answers the phone, let them know you want to schedule a ***"NY Pain MD Knee Pain And Arthritis Screening."*** They will know exactly what you are talking about and schedule you for our first time available. During this time you can get all of your questions answered in a warm, friendly environment and begin to find out if the ***NY Pain MD*** protocol is right for you. But if you would like to do this, you should call right now. The demand for this procedure has been overwhelming with hundreds calling weekly. Since our doctors cannot possible screen everyone and we always make sure to give every single patient the personal attention they deserve, we have to limit these encounter. Therefore, the number of No-Cost, No Obligation screenings is limited to just 20. But… just imagine how it would feel to have much, if not all, of your knee pain finally gone. Imagine going to bed and being able to sleep through the entire night – and waking up refreshed and energized… ready to take on the brand new day… without the arthritis pain that's been terrorizing you and ruining your life. And imagine finally knowing you have a treatment to manage the pain caused by your knee arthritis. Well, you may not have to just



"imagine" any more… because our specialized medical regimen could be the answer you've been looking for. If you'd like to find out - at no cost to you - if we can help, simply give ***NY Pain MD*** a call at 877-568-8350 right now. Why wait one more day in pain when you may not have to? Call now before some one else get's your spot.

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Ever since offering this innovative treatment, our office has been flooded with calls. For that reason, if when you call, the lines are busy or you get voice mail… just keep calling back. The possibility of living pain-free is well worth the effort it may take to get through to ***NY Pain MD*** schedule your No-Cost, No-Obligation screening.

**And don't forget:** The special treatments are covered by many insurances and even Part B medicare for qualified candidates. To schedule your No-Obligation screening and consultation, call to speak to one our scheduling coordinators.

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# the GRUMBLE

## Negativity taking the wind out of your sails

ISTOCK

*Pat King*
*Grumble Editor*

Yesterday's Grumble was one for the ages. Since we started this page, we've tried to get readers to write in with their complaints in order to start a discussion. You know, get the word out about some of the horrible things in the world — no matter how minute and specific they might be. But then, we received an email a reader about how the negative topics in the Grumble bring her down whenever she reads it. I totally get it. I feel exactly the same way whenever I am in the room with a killjoy Debbie Downer.

You know, those people who counter any good news you might have with a comment that takes your spirit down faster than a battery-powered drone hit by a brick. But just wishing that people would stop being so negative is a complaint unto itself. It's a vicious yet necessary cycle: react, complain, react, complain, and a Grumble is born. Consider the Grumble a place for you to blow off some steam. A place to let your voice be heard and to find out if others have similar complaints than you. Long live the Grumble!

**GRUMBLE WINNERS:**

It's that time again to announce the Grumble reader responses of the week. The following people will each win a $25 gift card to Amazon for their letters. Keep sending your Grumbles in for your chance at next week's prize. Here are this week's winners...

**1 Michele Lynn** for her incredible Grumble about the negativity in the Grumble.

**2 Ina Ten** for her hot take on people who pick the wrong places to smoke.

**3 Tyronne Lee** for his off the turnbuckle takedown of people who blast loud music on public transportation.

**4** A Philadelphia reader who goes by **"KC D"** and his or her fight against messy people turning Philly into "FILTHADELPHIA."

**5 Mike Turko** and his never ending battle against constant spam emails.

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The winning caption from @peonygardenjoy

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**Aries** Rely on what you know, not on what someone suggests. Dig deep and get to the bottom of any situation that appears to be unfair. Use a proactive approach.

**Taurus** Stick to tried-and-true methods and avoid getting caught up in someone else's dream. Know what's best for you, and steer clear of someone looking for an argument.

**Gemini** A thirst for knowledge will lead to conversations with people who spark your imagination and motivate you to take on new projects. Keeping busy or taking a day trip is encouraged.

**Cancer** Listen and be receptive to what's said. What you learn will help you make adjustments that will improve your relationships and reputation. Personal improvements are favored.

**Leo** Slow down, observe what others are doing and make your choices based on firsthand information. Know what you are up against before you make a move.

**Virgo** Your actions will take precedence over your words. Don't talk about what you should do or make promises that aren't reasonable. Do what you can without being asked.

**Libra** Find out what others want from you, and do your best to deliver. Holding back will send the wrong signal to someone who depends on you. It's best not to disappoint someone in command.

**Scorpio** Communication will clear up uncertainty you've been feeling. Look for alternative solutions that will encourage you to use your skills and be more creative.

**Sagittarius** Your knowledge and intelligence are your best weapons. Don't engage in situations that are based on false information or an unreliable offer. Take care of matters yourself.

**Capricorn** Make positive changes that bring you closer to loved ones. Pick up the pace and do the work rather than hire someone at a premium. Get everyone you live with involved in your plans.

**Aquarius** Don't let someone's bravado get to you. You are best off rejecting any offer to be indulgent or frivolous with a simple "No, thanks." Offer suggestions or hands-on help, not cash.

**Pisces** Make personal changes that will leave you feeling good about the way you look. You'll attract attention, and you should consider an offer that someone presents. Romance is in the stars. EUGENIA LAST

The new series features the largest-ever cast of transgender performers. FX

# Next Big Thing: Why you have to watch FX's 'Pose'

Ryan Murphy's latest hit debuts Sunday.

ANDREW HUSBAND
letters@metro.us

According to Deadline, TV maestro Ryan Murphy's ("Nip/Tuck," "Glee," "American Horror Story") Netflix deal worth $300 million goes into effect July 1. From that point on, the producer, writer and director behind some of TV's greatest hits will begin working on a series of new shows and films for the streaming giant. But that doesn't mean Murphy is done with Fox, where "9-1-1" scored a second season, or FX, home of the "Pose."

**What's it about?**

Set in New York during the 1980s, "Pose" is a dance musical billed as an exploration of the ball culture, luxury and literary worlds that dominated the era's social scene. "Wait a minute," you're probably wondering. "What is a 'dance musical'?" Simply put, unlike Murphy's "Glee" in that it was practically a televised musical complete with song and dance, "Pose" will emphasize the dance itself — particularly through the lens of New York's '80s ball culture.

Pose' premieres on FX this weekend. FX

Ryan Murphy GETTY IMAGES

**Why you should watch it**

That Murphy and his creative team are behind "Pose" is reason enough to check out the new FX drama. If this isn't enough, however, consider the sheer weight of its star power (Evan Peters, Kate Mara, James Van Der Beek, Billy Porter, Charlayne Woodard), the pop cultural significance of its setting, or the fact that "Pose" features the largest cast of transgender performers in series regular roles ever. Everyone else is going to be watching, so you won't want to miss out.

**Meet the cast**

"Pose" boasts the largest-ever cast of transgender performers in series regular roles, including MJ Rodriguez, Dominique Jackson, Indya Moore, Hailie Sahar and Angelica Ross. Supporting them are Evan Peters, Kate Mara, James Van Der Beek, Charlayne Woodard and Tony Award-winner Billy Porter. Newcomers Ryan Jamaal Swain, Dyllón Burnside and Angel Bismark Curiel also feature among the show's massive ensemble.

**How to watch**

"Pose" premieres this Sunday, June 3, at 9 p.m. on FX. After that, already-aired episodes will be available to stream on demand or in the FXNOW app.

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# 'American Animals' is a new way of telling a crazy true story

'American Animals' puts a new spin on the true crime genre. THE ORCHARD

Bart Layton talks blending drama and documentary with his heist film.

GREGORY WAKEMAN
Gregory.Wakeman@metro.us

"American Animals" is a truly idiosyncratic movie.

One part of it is a documentary, featuring interviews with childhood friends — Warren Lipka, Spencer Reinhard, Eric Borsuk and Chas Allen — who plotted to steal two of the rarest books in the world when they were students.

The other is a crime drama in the mold of "The Killing" and "Ocean's Eleven," as writer and director Bart Layton brings their heist and its planning to life with cinematic panache.

These approaches mold beautifully as Layton flauts storytelling tradition to pull you closer and closer in for a riveting and hugely entertaining experience. Layton recently spoke with Metro about the production of "American Animals," revealing that he stumbled upon the story by accident.

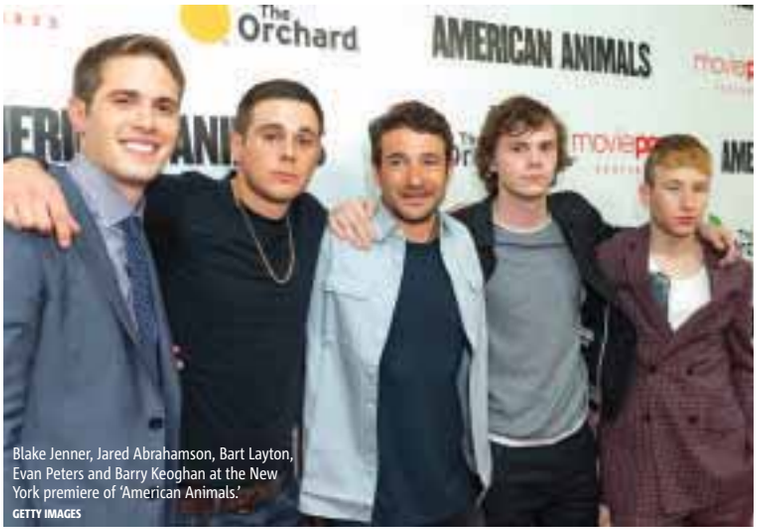
"I picked up a plane magazine years ago and just read about the story and thought it was kind of bonkers," Layton says. "My background is in documentaries, so I am always on the lookout for something that is stranger than fiction but is a true story."

"This was a group of seemingly well-educated, privileged young men from seemingly good families that had planned to execute one of the most audacious art thefts in American history," he adds. "I just desperately wanted to understand why they would attempt something like that, and if they ever thought they would get away with it."

Layton's first step was to write to those involved in the heist.

"I started to write to them. It was the things they put into their letters that made me think that it was more than a good story, it was a brilliant story," he says. "And it was about something worth making a movie about. It is about lost young men looking for an identity."

It was during these correspondences that Layton realized he had



Blake Jenner, Jared Abrahamson, Bart Layton, Evan Peters and Barry Keoghan at the New York premiere of 'American Animals.'
GETTY IMAGES

a unique opportunity to blend narrative drama with documentary. "My starting point is always: What is the best particular way to tell this story?" Layton says. "I made a film a few years ago called 'The Imposter.' Which was probably the most incredible true story I have ever come upon. It was clear that if you fictionalized that and turned it into a straight narrative you would lose a lot of what made it so great."

"With this it was a similarly unbelievable story, but it was about young men trying to inhabit a movie instead of reality. I thought there was the opportunity to find a new way of telling a true story that you haven't ever seen before," he adds. "It wasn't in any way a documentary. It is a proper heist movie, it is a roller-coaster ride, but at the same time there is a way of connecting the audience to the fact that it really happened, and that these guys are real, and that the consequences are real. You are effectively engaging on a deeper level with the whole thing."

You can try and engage with "American Animals" on this deeper level when it hits theaters on June 1.

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THINGS TO DO

Dueling Pizzas is a chance for both chefs to stretch their skills. DANIEL KRIEGER

# Marta is throwing a summer-long pizza battle

Some of the city's best chefs will turn their favorite dishes into pizza and antipasti at Dueling Pizzas.

EVA KIS
eva.kis@metro.us

Pizza is having something of a renaissance in New York City, from Italian masters setting up shop here to the Artichoke Pizza guys branching out into Detroit-style pies and even rainbow-colored pizzas because it's just the times we live in.

At Roman-pizza destination Marta, newly minted executive chef Lena Ciardullo is setting a different kind of pizza challenge: inviting some of her favorite chefs into her kitchen to create a pizza-centric tasting menu. "There's an interest in people seeing all kinds of different and fun dynamics of what you can do with pizza," she says.

Kicking off June 4, Dueling Pizzas is less competition than collaboration. (Because when more people are making pizza, everyone wins.) Ciardullo and her team will welcome five chefs — most of them not pizzaiolos — to create a seven-course menu: an *amuse bouche*, two appetizers and three pizza courses. Marta's pastry chef Jessica Weiss will make an on-theme dessert to round out the evening.

"A lot of the chefs are planning to use Marta's dough as a template and taking some of their specialties and transferring them onto our pizza," she explains.

"We're able to get a look at what their whole feel would be, both in how they dress the pizza and whatever other dishes they choose to highlight."

Chef Lena Ciardullo
PROVIDED

First up is Matt Hyland from Brooklyn darling Pizza Loves Emily, but then the contenders get interesting: Suzanne Cupps from the Whitney Museum's fine-dining restaurant Untitled (July 9), Ashley Rath of new Midtown power lunch spot The Grill (Aug. 6), Alex Raij of Spanish tapas favorite Txikito (Aug. 27) and Sawako Okochi, who makes acclaimed Jewish-Japanese fare at Shalom Japan (Sept. 24).

It's a chance for them to stretch their skills; at the same time, Ciardullo and her team get to try their own new ideas, some of which may even end up on the regular menu.

For the full Dueling Pizzas experience, you'll want to score one of the coveted front-row seats at the pizza counter for the tasting menu ($80 per person with an optional $40 wine pairing. In the rest of the dining room, you'll be able to order the wood-fired dishes and specialty pies a la carte.

***Seatings for Dueling Pizzas are at 6 and 8:30 p.m. at the pizza counter. For reservations, visit Resy or call 212-651-3800.***

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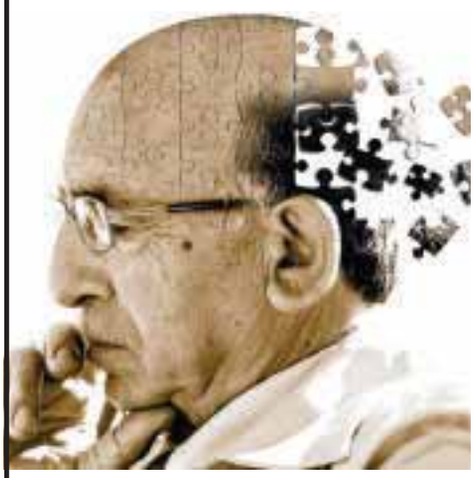

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FOOD

## Try Halo Top's soft serve free

You and the rest of America are probably already eating as much Halo Top ice cream as you should. So switch to its soft serve for a few days when the brand drops a pop-up inside the city's trendiest bakery Supermoon Bakehouse on the Lower East Side. Starting at 8 a.m., be one of the first 150 people in line to get a free swirl of Halo Top's new summery soft serve peaches and cream, or opt for one of its already-beloved flavors: peanut butter and vanilla bean.
**May 31-June 3, 120 Rivington St.**

## Thai ice cream sandwiches

Just as the weather is heating up, two of the city's buzziest dessert shops are combining their powers into the "Thais-cream sandwich." French toast bar Kay's Boutique Café is contributing its brûléed vanilla-flavored "bun" for two scoops of Thai tea-flavored ice cream from Asian dessert shop and creamery Eggloo, topped with salted toasted coconut flakes. The treat is available this weekend only at the ice cream cart in front of Kay's for $9.
**May 31-June 3, Thursday/Sunday noon-8 p.m. and Fri/Sat noon-9 p.m., 240 Mulberry St.**

## Jimmy Fund Scooper Bowl

The nation's largest all-you-can-eat ice cream party returns to New York City this weekend. Join fellow scoop enthusiasts at Bryant Park to enjoy as much as you can eat with one ticket. (Pro tip: Skip the cone and save more room for cold, creamy goodness.) You'll find your favorite flavorists, like Ben & Jerry's, Big Gay Ice Cream, Waffle & Dinges, Baskin Robbins, Breyers, Talenti and more. Proceeds benefit pediatric and adult cancer care through Jimmy Fund.
**June 1-3, Noon, Bryant Park, Sixth Ave. & 41st St., $25, jimmyfund.org**

## Txikifest 2018

Txikito celebrates 10 years of bringing authentic flavors from the Basque country to Chelsea – and you're invited. The big bash takes place Sunday afternoon, with a whole hog barbecue, txuleta steak and sides (a special menu for the special day, from the only place for Basque cuisine in NYC). Beverages are also included, and attendees will take home a commemorative txakoli glass. Adding a little more incentive to your revelry, all proceeds will go to the ACLU.
**June 3, 1-4 p.m., Txikito, 240 Ninth Ave., $65, txikito.com**

NATURE

NATASHA SHAPIRO

## OutdoorFest

You can love the city and still maintain your love of the outdoors — or fall in love with it for the first time. Embrace the spirit of adventure and beauty of nature during OutdoorFest with 10 days of events, starting this Friday. Activities take place across all five boroughs, starting with a campout on Staten Island. There's also night fishing, oyster preservation, kayaking around Governors Island, canoeing the Gowanus Canal and surfing, yoga or shoreline cleanup at the Rockaways.
**June 1-10, prices vary outdoorfest.com**

POP-UP

## Google Home Mini Golf Course

Putt your way through a pop-up mini golf course in the West Village showcasing the new Google Home speakers, with each hole designed to look like a room of the house, with the chance to win your own speakers and other prizes. There are also photo ops and treats for players. **May 31-June 4, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., 350 Sixth Ave., free, minigolf.withgoogle.com**

BOOKS

## BookCon

The Comic Con of books takes over the Javits Center all weekend for tons of panels with celebrity authors including former President Bill Clinton and Broad City star Abbi Jacobson, workshops on how to become the next George R.R. Martin, a giant crime fiction discussion and, of course, a marketplace for new releases and special editions.
**June 2, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., June 3, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 655 W. 34th St., $40-$45 ($10 kids), thebookcon.com**

SHOPPING

## AF Pop-Up Market

Looking for a Father's Day gift? You should be able to find something suitably rugged at the AF Pop-Up Market, returning to Industry City in Sunset Park this weekend. Explore over 50 up-and-coming brands (while meeting the self-starters behind them) all making jewelry, clothing, home decor, art, fragrance and other unique gifts right here in the U.S. There will be artisanal treats for sale, as well as complimentary cocktails to sample.
**June 2-3, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., 241 37th St., Brooklyn, free, go.shopaf.co/bk**

IMMERSIVE THEATER

## The Great Forgotten Garden Party

Escape the creeping dread of summer in the city with a frolic through an ethereal landscape at Atlas Obscura's Great Forgotten Garden Party. Overlooking the Hudson River on a hidden property with greenery and paths to wander, tall columns and a romantic garden pool, you'll discover dance and musical performances. BYO picnic or there will be vendors and a cash bars. **June 2, 6-10 p.m. Untermyer Gardens, 945 N. Broadway, Yonkers, $55, atlasobscura.com**

T. MICHELLE MURPHY

DAVE DICELLO

# 10 days of free art with Pittsburgh's Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival

The city will come alive with free music and art from June 1-10.

PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

Summer is just around the corner, which means festival season is about to kick into high gear. When you start planning your trips and updating your Google calendars with some of the shows you are dying see, consider making the trip to Pittsburgh for its Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival. This free, 10-day long music and arts festival will run from June 1-10 and has been a mainstay in the city for the past 59 years.

"We are excited for the Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival," said Craig Davis, president and CEO of VisitPittsburgh. This event has become synonymous with the start of summer in the City of Pittsburgh, bringing in hundreds of thousands of visitors each year, not only see and hear the amazing artists, but also to experience everything our great city has to offer."

The festival has been known to showcase the best works from local Pittsburgh artists, as well as exclusive installations from internationally known artists and some of the world's biggest touring acts. The festival attracts nearly 500,000 visitors every year who enjoy this wildly eclectic and unique event in one of America's great cities. Here are some highlights from this year's festivities:

## Great live music

This year's musical portion of the festival will kick off with the legendary soul-singer and political activist, Mavis Staples. This Rock and Roll Hall of Famer will be gracing the main stage on June 1 with a mix of classics from both her time with her family band, the Staples Singers, and selections from her award-winning solo career.

Other amazing acts that will be included throughout the Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival are the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh and their reimagining of the Dylan repertoire "The Times They Are a Changing: Words and Music of Bob Dylan" on June 2, and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra on June 3.

For something on the other side of the musical spectrum, wildly popular and upbeat British indie-rockers Everything, Everything will be whipping festivalgoers into a frenzy June 2. On June 4, Lukas Nelson and the Promise of the Real will be bringing their blistering form of roots-rock to the festival. Lukas, the son of country music legend Willie Nelson, is in the current backing band to Neil Young and a great songwriter in his own right. Innovative hip-hop and jazz fusion band Sidewalk Chalk will be performing on June 7. The festival closes with two more roots and Americana artists, Valerie June on June 8 and Ricky Skaggs and the Kentucky Thunder on June 9.

## Amazing free art

Aside from the wonderful free musical performances, The Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival will also be debuting a number of unique projects from some renowned visual artists. Famed sculptor Dee Briggs will be unveiling her new project "Six Plates for Annabelle and Maggie," based on the concept of chirality, which shows the relationship between symmetry and mirror images in geometric shapes. This installation will be located at the Gateway Center "T" subway station at the beginning of the festival and will remain on display until May 2019.

RENEE ROSENSTEEL

Another festival highlight will be a seminar hosted by renowned British rock photographer Janette Beckman. She will be holding classes for students from underserved communities about the importance of photojournalism, and will showcase their work throughout the city.

And that's just the tip of the iceberg. Numerous galleries sponsored by the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust will be offering free admission in the city's 14-square-block Cultural District throughout the festival. The August Wilson Center will also be providing free admission and will host the Create! Festival and Awards, June 6-7. This event is presented by both the Pittsburgh Technology Council and the Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival. It will include panels and demonstrations on the intersections of creativity in the arts and technological innovation.

"It has been really exciting to see it all come together in these last few weeks," explains director of festival management for the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, Sarah Aziz. "One of the things I'm most proud of with this festival is that we've been able to stay true to our mission of taking art out of museums and bringing it to the people at no cost. One of our focuses has been to diversify the art and make it inclusive to a lot of different people. I worked really hard to get a diverse music lineup this year, and to get a lot of different kinds of art that people can enjoy and not be intimidated by. They will feel like the art is for them, because it is!"

The Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival will deliver ten days of amazing free art and music that will be the perfect way to kick-off your summer. And, if you've never visited Pittsburgh before, this is a great chance to check out what this amazing city has to offer.

# Everything you need to know about this year's *Governors Ball*

The annual music festival heads back to Randall's Island this weekend.

PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

When the weather gets warmer in New York City, it usually means a few different things: The season of discreetly drinking outside has begun; there is an extremely short window between now and when New Yorkers will be completely drenched in sweat from when they wake up to whenever they go to sleep; and Governors Ball will be bringing some of the world's biggest music acts for three glorious days to Randall's Island.

From the smaller stages to the headliners, this year's lineup is insanely stacked with artists from all genres and food vendors from some of the best restaurants in the city. Have you picked up your tickets yet? Here is our list of everything you need to know about Governors Ball 2018.

**When is Governors Ball?**
Governors Ball will be kicking off Friday, June 1, and ending Sunday June 3. Each day, Governors Ball will open its doors at 11:45 a.m. and will close at 11 p.m. after the final headliners of the evening.

**Governors Ball lineup...**

**Friday night**
Jack White, The Yeah Yeah Yeahs, Post Malone, James Blake, Shawn Mendes, Damian 'Jr. Gong' Marley, The Glitch Mob, Alvvays, Maggie Rogers, DRAM, Goldlink, Tash Sultana, Wolf Alice, Belly, Flight Facilities, Pond, Two Feet, Sir Sly, A$AP Twelvyy, Lou the Human, Lophile and Slaves (U.K.).

**Saturday night**
Travis Scott, Halsey, Silk City (Diplo + Mark Ronson), The Gaslight Anthem (Performing "The '59 Sound"), 2 Chainz, Cut Copy, Galantis, Russ, Manchester Orchestra, Japandroids, Kelela, Brockhampton, Lany, The Menzingers, Jay Electronica, Moses Sumney, Aurora, VHS Collection, Cuco, The Spencer Lee Band, Mikky Ekko, and The Regrettes.

**Sunday night**

A scene from last year's GovBall. GETTY IMAGES

Eminem, N.E.R.D, Khalid, Chvrches, Lil Uzi Vert, Sylvan Esso, Dirty Projectors, Aminé, Khali Uchis, Margo Price, Vic Mensa, Third Eye Blind, Billie Eilish, Quinn XCII, The Struts, Middle Kids, Knox Fortune, Westside Gunn & Conway, Berhana, Alice Merton and Confidence Man.

**Is it sold out?**
Rejoice! Tickets are still available for Governors Ball 2018. But if you are looking to purchase single-day general-admission tickets for either Saturday or Sunday, then you're sadly out of luck. If you would only like to attend on Friday, tickets will run you $115 plus fees. If you are planning on swinging by for all three days with standard general admission tickets, that will cost $305 plus fees. If you are looking to ball out at the festival, you can upgrade your tickets with the VIP or VIP Plus options. A single day VIP ticket will provide you with special areas where you can get a better view at each of the festival's four stages with access to special food vendors, bathrooms and bar. VIP Plus — on the other hand — will get you all of these things plus four food tokens redeemable at any of the vendors at the festival and all inclusive drinks for the day. A single day VIP ticket will cost $255 plus fees per day, while the VIP Plus will cost $705 plus fees.

***For a full schedule, ticket information, directions, and food vendors head over to governorsballmusicfestival.com.***

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# Meet the Mess ... for yet

And you thought that a change in the medical staff would stop the onslaught of injuries.

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

Did you really think that the removal of Ray Ramirez would suddenly reverse the injury fortunes surrounding the New York Mets?

It's time to face it, folks. The Mets are one of the most snakebitten franchises in professional sports and it is continuing through the 2018 season as injuries are already piling up at a severely alarming rate.

There shouldn't be too much surprise considering this is a common occurrence. Last May, we ran a similar piece titled "Meet the Mess," highlighting the notable stars that were sidelined due to injuries less than two months into the season.

That list seems almost trivial compared to what the Mets are dealing with this year because it is longer and even more mind-boggling. Especially because the names have piled up over the last few days.

Not even listed is Steven Matz, who might be added to the injury party after he was removed from Tuesday night's game against the Atlanta Braves due to a finger injury sustained while swinging a bat. Matz had been dealing in the month of May, posting a 2.25 ERA in five starts.

**WILMER FLORES**
Lower-back soreness
10-Day DL (5/28)

**A.J. RAMOS**
Right shoulder strain
10-Day DL (5/27)

**JUAN LAGARES**
Left toe surgery
Out for season (5/18)

**HANSEL ROBLES**
Strained right knee
10-Day DL (5/9)

**ANTHONY SWARZAK**
Strained left oblique
60-Day DL (4/1)

**DAVID WRIGHT**
Persistent neck, back issues
60-Day DL (3/26)

**T.J. RIVERA**
Right elbow surgery
60-Day DL (2/14)

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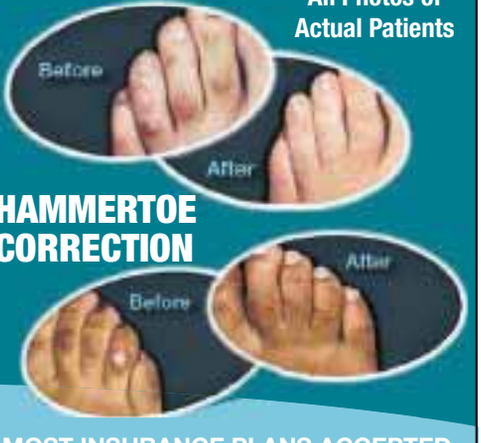


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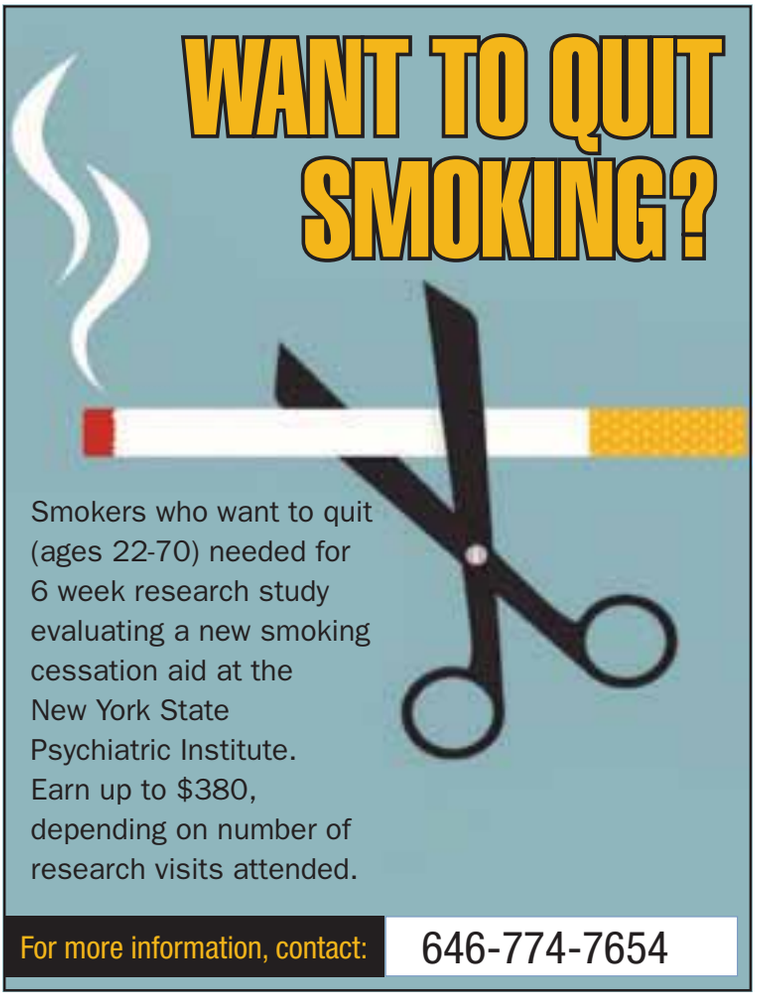
# another year

**NOAH SYNDERGAARD**
Strained ligament in index finger
10-Day DL (5/26)

**YOENIS CESPEDES**
Strained right hip
10-Day DL (5/14)

**TODD FRAZIER**
Strained left hamstring
10-Day DL (5/8)

**TRAVIS d'ARNAUD**
Torn UCL, right elbow
60-Day DL (4/9)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Including… what you need to know about joint lubricating injections, platelet rich plasma (PRP), stem cell therapy... and more.

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**How To Get Your Information Kit…**

All you have to do is go to **painmdny.com/knee** and click the button that says "Click here to get a free knee arthritis treatment info kit."

Then put your name and email address in the space provided and you will be emailed a video and PDF report detailing what treatment options could be the best for your arthritis pain and how we might be able to help you.

We will also send you a way to get a free screening to see if you qualify for one of the advanced medical treatments. ***It is 100% free with no further obligation.***

If you are interested in the screening… awesome. If not, that's ok, too... at least you will have all the information and options.

**And if you don't have email...**

you can click the red "knee pain" button and you will instantly watch a video detailing some of your best options. If you are looking for proof... I think you will find it on this website.

After getting this information and watching the video... you will breathe a big sigh of relief knowing what your best options are and what treatments might finally relieve some or even all of your knee arthritis pain.

**And let's be crystal clear about this…** NYC Pain MD is a real medical clinic with real medical doctors.

You will be getting real quality information about real medical treatments.

This is NOT some fake "wonder cure." In fact… you will NEVER see any guarantee of results. This is because… in the world or science and real medicine… Guaranteeing results is impossible.

Every patients is different… and so are the results. Any doctor (or marketer!) telling you different is lying to you. I have seen some of the "miracle cure" ads that are everywhere. I bet you have too.

That being said… We will be completely upfront and honest with you. Refreshing... isn't it?

So… if you are looking for up to date... honest information about some of the best possible medical treatments for knee arthritis pain…

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# Warriors heavy favorites to win NBA Finals

Golden State has taken two of the last three Finals against Cleveland.

MARK LELLINWALLA
sports@metro.us

Can LeBron do the impossible and will his Cleveland Cavaliers to victory over the juggernaut that is the Golden State Warriors? Or is it just a matter of how many games that it will take the defending champions to finish off King James' Cavs at this point?

Those questions will be answered when the Cavs and Warriors face off for the fourth-consecutive year in the NBA Finals, beginning Thursday night (9 p.m. ET, ABC) at Oracle Arena in Oakland.

Once the matchup was set, the Westgate SuperBook in Las Vegas declared the Warriors as a mammoth -1,000 favorite to win the series, making the defending champs the largest Finals favorite in 16 seasons, as reported by odds hub Sportsoddshistory.com.

It's hard to argue against those lopsided odds, either. Yes, one can argue that Golden State was aided by the absence of Houston Rockets point guard Chris Paul in the last two games of the Western Conference Finals, allowing the Warriors to come from a 3-2 deficit to win the series. On the other hand, it took a Herculean effort from King James (35.6 points, 9.2 rebounds and 7.6 assists in 42.6 minutes per game) over seven games against the Boston Celtics in the Eastern Conference Finals just to will the Cavs back into the Finals.

This could very well be the least-talented squad that James has every carried into the Finals, in this, his eighth straight appearance on the NBA's grandest stage. If it took all of James's might against a Celtics team playing without Kyrie Irving and Gordon Hayward, then one has to think that those Finals' odds are spot on.

Kevin Durant looks for his second-straight title over LeBron James. GETTY IMAGES

That, and King James, playing alongside then-high-scoring sidekick Irving, was only able to take one game from the Warriors in the 2017 NBA Finals, losing the series in five.

Off of LeBron's sheer greatness and brilliance alone and fellow All-Star Kevin Love returning from the league's concussion protocol, one would think that he can lead to Cavs to at least one win, or maybe two, in these Finals.

But even that could be pushing it, especially when the Warriors return to the Finals with their four All-Stars — Kevin Durant, Stephen Curry, Draymond Green and Klay Thompson — leading the way with no other NBA team having any answer for their third-quarter surges this year.

With the Warriors trailing the Rockets by 10 points at halftime of Game 7 on Monday night, Curry scored 14 of his 27 points in the third quarter to help power Golden State to the lead for good.

What's even scarier for the Cavs is that they fell victim to the Warriors' third-quarter onslaught in two meetings this past regular season, having been outscored by the defending champs in those periods. According to ESPN, the Warriors shot 51 percent, including 50 percent beyond the arc, in the third quarters from those games against Cleveland — both Golden State wins.

That, and KD is already eagerly anticipating going head-to-head with James as he did in last year's Finals, which he was named the MVP of.

"Like this series, Trevor Ariza, PJ Tucker, James [Harden], [Chris Paul], they brought the best out of me," Durant told ESPN on Monday night after Game 7 about how the Rockets' key players pushed his play to another level. "They made me dig down deep as a player to figure this s— out. That's what you want. It might not be against the quote on quote the best player to ever play or the best player in the league all the time. But it's just cool that every opportunity you step on the floor in the playoffs, the farther you go, somebody is going to challenge you."

He added: "So, the next round is going to be LeBron James, somebody I can match up with. Somebody who is going to match up with me and just bring the best out of me. Just like I'll probably bring the best out of him, and we'll see what happens."

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## LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF FRANCHISE AND CONCESSION REVIEW COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING ON AGENCY ANNUAL CONCESSION PLANS**

Notice of a Franchise and Concession Review Committee (FCRC) Public Hearing on Agency Annual Concession Plans for Fiscal Year 2019 pursuant to Section 1-10 of the Concession Rules of the City of New York (Concession Rules), to be held on Monday, June 11, 2018, commencing at 2:30 P.M., and located at 2 Lafayette Street, 14th Floor Auditorium, Manhattan. At this hearing, the FCRC will further solicit comments about the provisions of the Concession Rules from the vendor community, civic groups and the public at large. The FCRC shall consider the issues raised at the Public Hearing in accordance with the procedures set forth in the New York City Charter under the City Administrative Procedure Act.

The following agencies submitted an Annual Concession Plan for Fiscal Year 2019: the Department of Parks and Recreation; the Department of Citywide Administration Services; the Department of Environmental Protection; the Department of Homeless Services; the Department of Corrections; the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; the Department of Transportation; the New York City Fire Department; the Department of Housing Preservation and Development; the NYC & Company on behalf of the Department of Small Business Services; the New York City Economic Development Corporation on behalf of the Department of Small Business Services; and the New York City Police Department.

The portfolio of Agency Annual Concession Plans covers significant and non-significant concessions expiring, continuing and anticipated for solicitation or initiation in Fiscal Year 2019. Furthermore, the portfolio covers, *inter alia*:

- Department of Parks and Recreation: mobile food units, food service facilities, golf courses, driving ranges, marinas, tennis professionals, athletic facilities, Christmas trees, parking lots, markets, fairs, restaurants, concerts, newsstands, stables, gas stations, amusement venues, ice skating rinks, carousels, ferry services, bike rentals, circus, sailboat rentals, souvenirs and gifts, beach equipment, and event programming.
- Department of Citywide Administrative Services: maritime/non-maritime occupancy permits, and vending machines.
- Department of Environmental Protection: gas purification.
- Department of Homeless Services: athletic facility.
- Department of Corrections: commissary services, mobile food units, vending machines and call tower.
- Department of Health and Mental Hygiene: drug discount card program.
- Department of Transportation: vending machines, pedestrian plazas, food courts, café, market, bicycle parking and dispatch booth/pick-up area for car service.
- New York City Fire Department: fire museum and collections.
- Department of Housing Preservation and Development: café.
- NYC & Company on behalf of the Department of Small Business Services: marketing, advertising, intellectual property and trademark merchandising.
- New York City Economic Development Corporation on behalf of the Department of Small Business Service: parking lots, maritime and non-maritime occupancy permits.
- New York City Police Department: vending machines, ATMs and cafeteria.

Interested parties may obtain a copy of the Agency Annual Concession Plans by contacting Stephanie Ruiz by phone at 212-788-0010. Hard copies will be provided at a cost of $.25 per page by check or money order made payable to the New York City Department of Finance. Upon request, a PDF version of the Agency Annual Concession Plans is available free of cost.

**NOTICE OF SALE**

SUPREME COURT
QUEENS COUNTY
NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, Plaintiff against VISHWAMINTRA PERSAUD, et al Defendants
Attorney for Plaintiff (s) Fein, Such & Crane, LLP 28 East Main Street Suite 1800, Rochester, NY 14614
Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s).
Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale Entered March 7, 2018 I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder at the Queens County Supreme Court, 88-11 Sutphin Blvd., Jamaica, New York 11435, in Courtroom #25 on June 15, 2018 at 10:00 AM.
Premises known as 120-12 Van Wyck Expressway, South Ozone Park, NY 11420.
Block 11702 Lot 27.
All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Queens, City and State of New York.
Approximate Amount of Judgment is $625,097.74 plus interest and costs.
Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No 7572-2010.
David R Ferguson, Esq., Referee
QSLSC060.

**NOTICE OF SALE**

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF QUEENS BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., Plaintiff AGAINST VINKO KLJAJIC, VIOLET KLJAJIC, et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated March 09, 2018 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Queens County Courthouse in Courtroom #25, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, New York , on June 22, 2018 at 10:00AM, premises known as 64-44 84TH PLACE, MIDDLE VILLAGE, NY 11379. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Queens, City and State of New York, BLOCK 3013, LOT 33.
Approximate amount of judgment $393,023.47 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 17271/13.
Peter M. Wolf, Esq., Referee
Gross Polowy, LLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100, Williamsville, NY 14221
54146

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of Crescent Farms, LLC. Articles of Org. filed with the Secy. of State of New York (SSNY) on 05/17/2018. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC c/o Turf Company, 16 Court St., Brooklyn, NY 11241. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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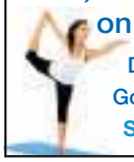

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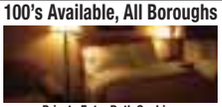

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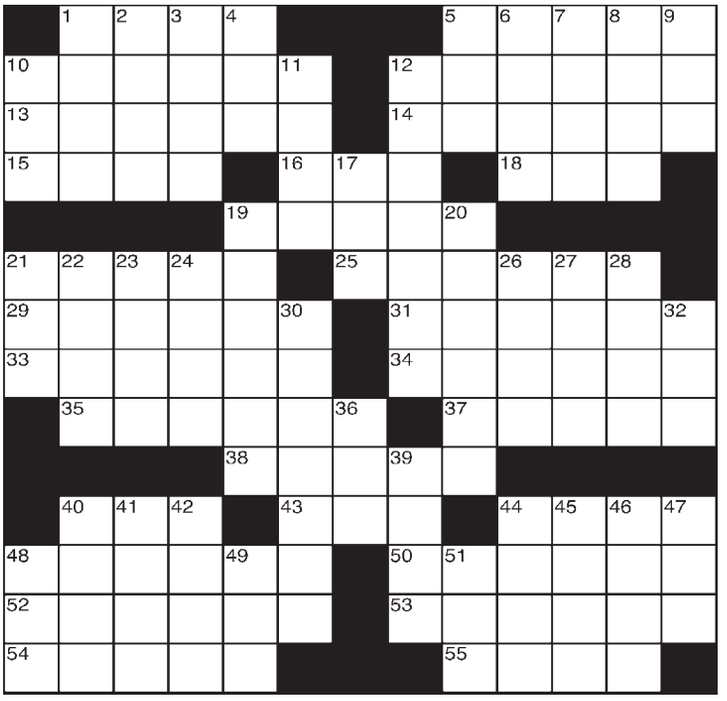
# metro.us/crossword

**ACROSS**
1 Competed for
5 Like whitecaps
10 Paddock
12 Submarine
13 May or Stritch
14 Bullish trend
15 To be, to Brutus
16 Cat or turkey
18 Loft filler
19 Camera setting (hyph.)
21 Man in a mask
25 Tracked down
29 On the plane
31 Deleted data
33 Lawmen
34 Insist on
35 Chief's advisers
37 Disturb
38 Long stories
40 Vote in favor
43 — take forever!
44 Immed- iately following
48 Hitching post?
50 Very ambitious
52 Galley slaves
53 Not making a sound
54 Before Polk
55 Plateau

**DOWN**
1 Tennessee gridders
2 Some nest eggs
3 Canal of song
4 Dapper fellow
5 Vain dude
6 Courtroom ritual
7 Water, in Baja
8 Muddy 9 Itch
10 Passing grade
11 Allows
12 Indulged
17 Homer-hitter Mel
19 Pries open
20 Kitchen gadgets
21 Nuke
22 Band member
23 Wallpaper unit
24 Surprise attack
26 Hunter's wear
27 Hairy twin
28 Caves, often
30 Goes off track
32 Banned bug spray
36 Army off.
39 Explains further
40 Hello, matey!
41 Ketch cousin
42 Touche provoker
44 Shade of green
45 Poetic twilights
46 Warrior princess
47 Atlanta-based station
48 Old PC monitor
49 Blow it
51 Brink



# metro.us/sudoku

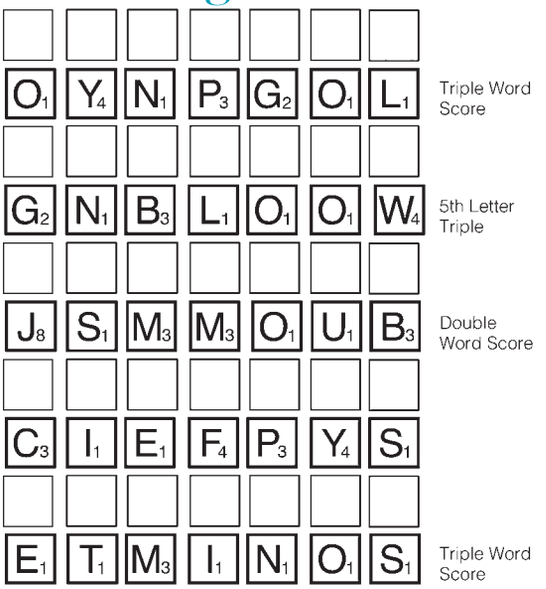
**easy**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 6 | | | | | 3 | |
| 8 | | | 9 | | | 2 | | 6 |
| | | | | | | | 5 | 8 |
| | 7 | 2 | 4 | | 6 | | | |
| | 6 | 9 | | 7 | | 4 | 2 | |
| | | | 3 | | 5 | 9 | 6 | |
| 1 | 3 | | | | | | | |
| 6 | | 4 | | | 1 | | | 5 |
| | 2 | | | | | 8 | 1 | |

**hard**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 3 | 6 | 9 | | 5 | 8 |
| | | | | 1 | | 6 | | |
| 7 | | | 8 | | | | 4 | |
| | | | 1 | | 8 | 2 | | 9 |
| | | 7 | | 4 | | 1 | | |
| 1 | | 9 | 6 | | 7 | | | |
| | 7 | | | | 6 | | | 3 |
| | | 5 | | 8 | | | | |
| 9 | 6 | | 2 | 7 | 3 | | | |

# metro.us/games




**PAR SCORE 220-230**

RACK 1
RACK 2
RACK 3
RACK 4
RACK 5

NEW
TURN BACK TO PAGE 18 FOR HOROSCOPES

**Yesterday's Scrabble answers.**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| RACK 1 | = | 14 |
| RACK 2 | = | 59 |
| RACK 3 | = | 24 |
| RACK 4 | = | 39 |
| JUDD'S TOTAL | | 136 |

**PAR SCORE 90-100**

Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Seven-letter words get a 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. Scrabble is a trademark of Hasbro in the U.S. and Canada.

**Yesterday's Crosswords**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| J | E | E | R | | | N | O | B | | L | O | T |
| A | P | R | E | S | | A | N | A | | O | P | E |
| W | A | S | T | E | | P | T | S | | P | I | N |
| | | | A | L | D | A | | T | W | E | E | D |
| | H | O | R | D | E | | D | E | Y | | | |
| P | E | G | | O | V | E | R | | N | A | S | H |
| L | I | D | | M | I | N | I | | N | U | K | E |
| O | D | E | S | | O | G | L | E | | R | I | A |
| T | I | N | T | | U | R | L | S | | I | M | P |
| | | | A | L | S | | E | P | I | C | S | |
| U | S | A | G | E | | T | R | I | O | | | |
| F | E | B | | A | P | E | | E | T | H | A | N |
| O | R | B | | S | A | T | | S | A | B | L | E |
| S | A | Y | | E | W | E | | | S | O | F | T |

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